

## **Update on Demonstrations in Peru: June 10, 2009**

**Posted: June 15, 2009**

The government of Peru has declared a state of emergency in the north of Peru. Political demonstrations, strikes, and marches are occurring in Amazonas and Loreto. Some of them have been violent, with police and protestors being killed. Protest marches can cause serious disruptions to road, air, and rail transportation. Sympathy demonstrations are occurring in various other regions of Peru, including Cuzco and Arequipa.

Organizers have publicly advertised of their plans to hold a March and protest in the center of Lima on Thursday June 11, 2009. Since the Embassy cannot rule out the possibility of violence being associated with this event, it is highly recommended that this part of metropolitan Lima be avoided, if possible.

Demonstrations are often - but not always - announced in advance. While these activities are usually peaceful, they can quickly escalate into violent confrontations. Foreigners are prohibited by Peruvian law from taking part in anti-government demonstrations, and in the past some U.S. visitors have been arrested after joining in spontaneous marches. As a general rule, it is prudent to avoid large crowds and demonstrations.

Visitors are encouraged to keep informed by following the local news and consulting hotel personnel and tour guides. It may be useful to provide family or friends with a general itinerary. The Embassy also repeats the wisdom of registering travel with the Consular Section.

The U.S. Embassy will continue to monitor this situation and will issue updated messages.

Americans living or traveling in Peru are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department's [travel registration web site](#) so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security within Peru. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the U.S. Embassy or Consular Agent. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency.

For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located in Monterrico, a suburb of Lima, at Avenida La Encalada, Block Seventeen; telephone (51-1) 618-2000 during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.), or (51-1) 618-2936 for after-hours emergencies (English) or (51-1) 618-2935 for after-hours emergencies (Spanish); fax (51-1) 618-2397, or 618-2724 (American Citizen Services Unit); [Internet website](#). The Consular Section is open for American Citizens Services, including registration, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. weekdays, excluding U.S. and Peruvian holidays. The U.S. Consular Agency in Cusco, Peru, can be found at Avenida Pardo 845, Cusco. The office can be reached by phone at (51-84) 231-474, and is open Monday thru Friday, excluding [U.S. and Peruvian holidays](#), 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

End of Warden Message